

ABSTRACT

5 Disclosed is a method and apparatus to electronically tabulate items marked with a bar code. The
system may optionally operate to manage, control and tabulate inventory, produce vendor-correct
purchase orders, manage multiple locations, multiple buildings, multiple clients and multiple
stores to facilitate efficiency for a wholesaler or retailer or alternatively for a distributor, broker
or sales agent. The system may alternatively be used to manage inventory for a manufacturing
10 environment or for tracking evidence or items in a chain of custody environment useful for
governmental and scientific functions.